

UNIVERSAL HISTORY

UNDERSTANDING OUR WORLD ACCORDING TO GENESIS 1-11

A D A M A N D E V E | M E N A N D W O M E N

Genesis 1:26 - 2:24

Genesis 1 - 11

the beginnings
of all of human
life

Genesis 12 - 50

the beginnings
of God's people

Rest of
Old Testament

the rest of the
story of the
Jews

New Testament

God sends down
Jesus to rescue
us

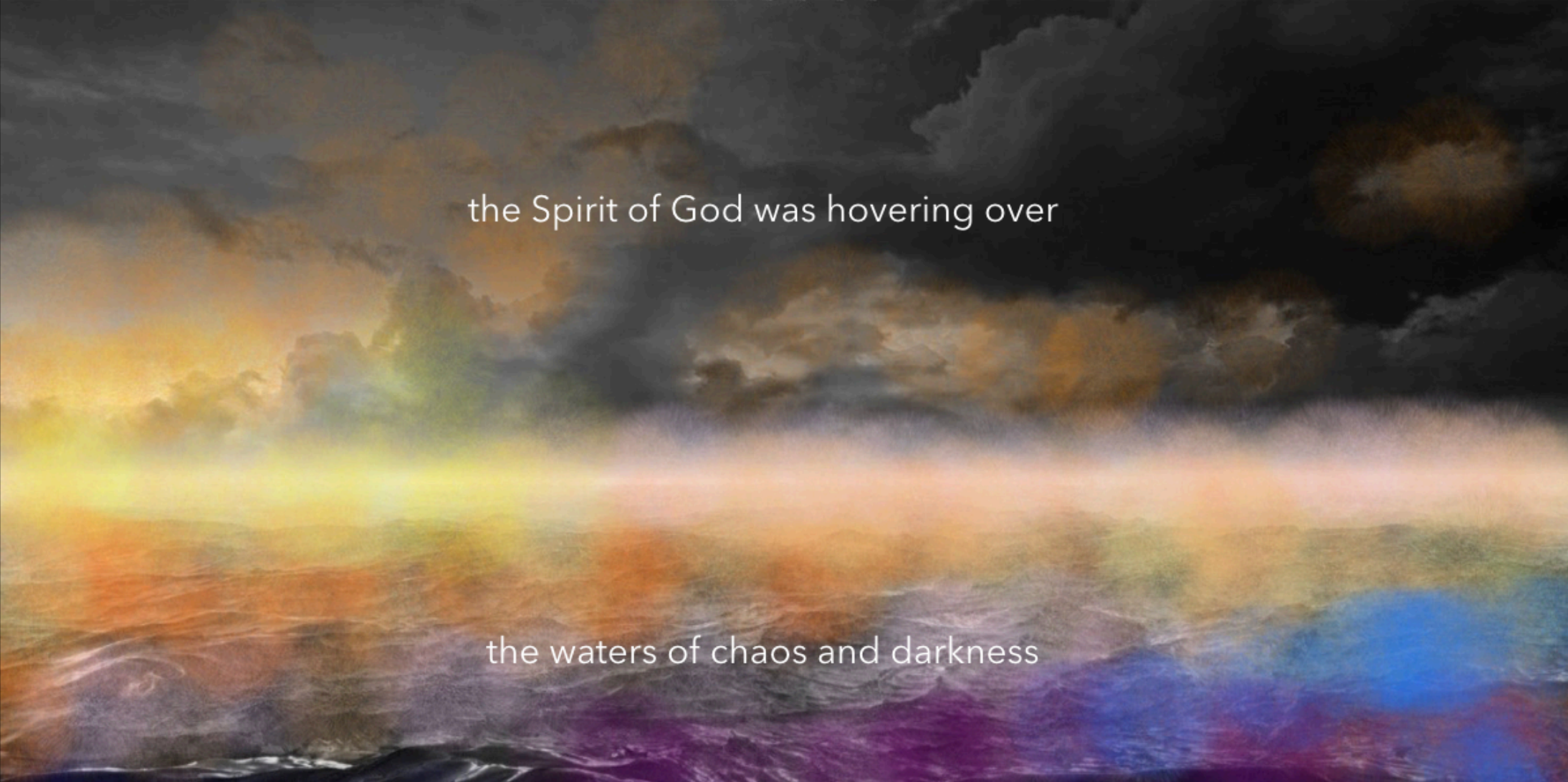
Our world today

We continue
that work by
partnering
with God in this
world



God's Design
"very good"

Brokenness
"not so much"

A dramatic landscape painting featuring a vibrant rainbow arching across a turbulent sea. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, suggesting a storm or a moment of divine intervention. The water below is rendered in various colors, including deep blues, purples, and oranges, creating a sense of chaos and movement. The overall mood is one of awe and divine presence.

the Spirit of God was hovering over

the waters of chaos and darkness

God's Design
"very good"

?!?

Brokenness
"not so much"

The Bible is the special revelation of God, and tells us what we need to know in areas of faith, and gives us principles and values in how we govern, live and understand our world

Science discovers the general revelation of God and help us to better understand people and our world, have better lives and relieve suffering

While science describes what happened and how things take place, it can't tell us about purpose or morality. We must get these from the Bible.



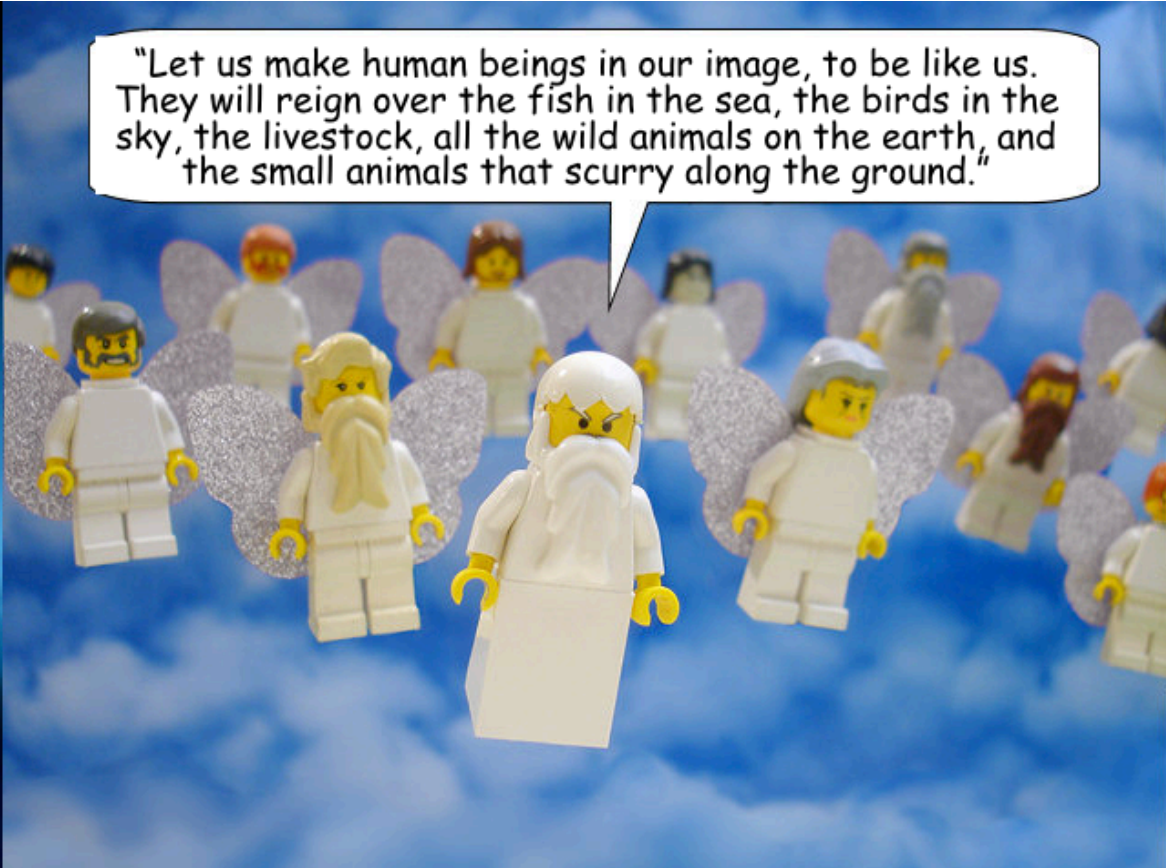
Epicentre Youth Retreat 2018

First creation narrative: Genesis 1:1-2:3

is formal and poetic

emphasizes God's power and sovereignty and the perfection of all He's made



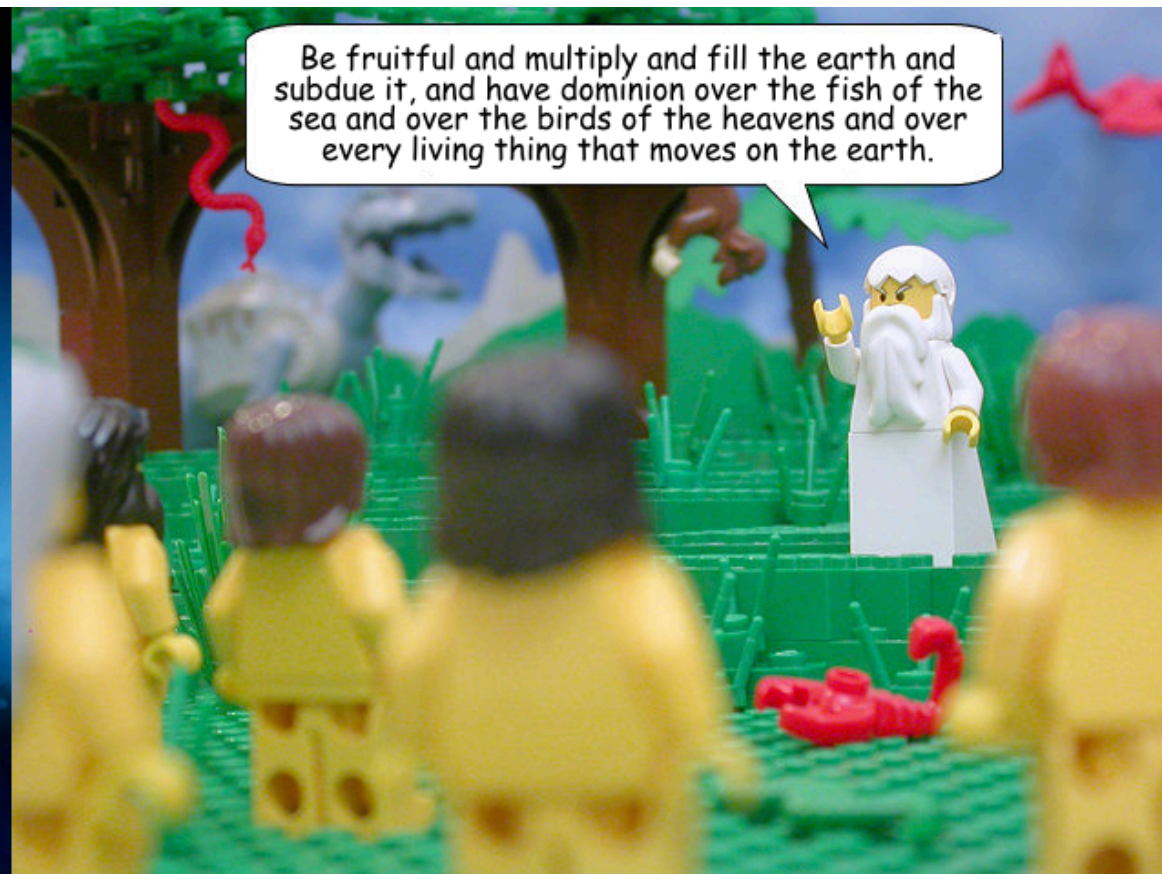


"Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground."

Genesis 1 ²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground."



Genesis 1²⁷ So So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.



Genesis 1²⁸ Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."



Genesis 1 ²⁹ Then God said, "Look! I have given you every seed-bearing plant throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food. ³⁰ And I have given every green plant as food for all the wild animals, the birds in the sky, and the small animals that scurry along the ground—everything that has life." And that is what happened.

NLT



Genesis 1 ³¹ Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good! And evening passed and morning came, marking the sixth day.



Genesis 2 ¹ So the creation of the heavens and the earth and everything in them was completed. ² On the seventh day God had finished his work of creation, so he rested from all his work. ³ And God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, because it was the day when he rested from all his work of creation. NLT

First creation narrative: Genesis 1:1-2:3

is formal and poetic

emphasizes God's power and sovereignty and the perfection of all He's made

Second creation narrative: Genesis 2:4 - 2:25

while it comes after the first creation narrative, it's to be understood as taking place in the middle of the first one

is personal and warm

focuses on the creation of Adam and Eve



Genesis 2 ⁴ This is the account of the creation of the heavens and the earth. When the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵ neither wild plants nor grains were growing on the earth. For the Lord God had not yet sent rain to water the earth, and there were no people to cultivate the soil. ⁶ Instead, springs came up from the ground and watered all the land.

NLT



Genesis 2 ⁷ Then the Lord God formed the man
from the dust of the ground.



He breathed the breath of life into the man's nostrils, and the man became a living person.



and the man became a living person.



Genesis 2 ⁸Then the Lord God planted a garden in Eden in the east, and there he placed the man he had made. ⁹The Lord God made all sorts of trees grow up from the ground—trees that were beautiful and that produced delicious fruit.



Genesis 2 ¹⁵ The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it.



Genesis 2 ¹⁸ Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him."



Genesis 2 ¹⁹ Now out of the ground the Lord God had formed every
beast of the field and every bird of the heavens



and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name.²⁰ The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field.



But still there was no helper just right for him.



Genesis 2 ²¹ So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep. While the man slept, the Lord God took out one of the man's ribs and closed up the opening.

NLT



Genesis 2 and he brought her to the man, ²³ "At last!" the man exclaimed. "This one is bone from my bone, and flesh from my flesh! She will be called 'woman,' because she was taken from 'man.'"

NLT



Genesis 2 ²⁴ This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.



God's Design

"very good"

Brokenness

"not so much"

God's Design
"very good"

Adam yearns for
his ezer

- Male and female were made to be with each other
- God created the union of male and female as very good!
- Sex was created as the awesome joining of two into one
- This love and union was created to be celebrated and expressed physically in marriage between a man and a woman

God's Design

"very good"

Adam yearns for
his ezer

Adam and Eve
are created equal
and
complementary

- Adam and Eve are both created in God's image and therefore have equal value
- They are also created differently and therefore complement each other
- Adam is called to lead, to serve and to bring order and definition
- Eve is a *warrior bride (ezer kenegdo)*

God's Design

"very good"

Adam yearns for
his *ezer*

Adam and Eve
are created equal
and
complementary

Adam and Eve
are needed
together to fulfill
God's purposes

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Adam and Eve
are needed
together to fulfill
God's purposes

Be fruitful and
multiply

Grow the
garden until
God's order
and light takes
over the world
of kingdom and
darkness

This is framed
as a battle

A cinematic still from the movie Thor: Ragnarok showing Thor and Valkyrie in their Asgardian armor. Thor is on the left, holding Mjolnir, and Valkyrie is on the right, holding her sword. The background is a bright, hazy sky. Overlaid on the image are five blue circular callouts with white text.

God's Design

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The background of the entire slide is a cinematic image of Thor and Valkyrie from the movie 'Thor: Ragnarok'. Thor is on the left, looking forward with a serious expression, wearing his red cape and armor. Valkyrie is on the right, looking slightly to the side. The image is dimmed to allow text to be read.

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Brokenness

"not so much"

attacks
against
women

attacks
against
men

attacks
against
marriages

attacks
against
marriage

attacks
against
men and women
together

attacks
against gender
identity

attacks
against our
identity



God's Design

"very good"

Brokenness

"not so much"

I'm stuck in brokenness and need to get to God's design

I've been attacked in these areas and need healing

I've participated in attacks on others and I'm really sorry

I'm struggling with one of the attacks myself and I need prayer and support

I know people who've really struggled and will pray for and reach out to them